



October

November

December

BLUE MOUND VETERANS TIMES

2015

UPCOMING EVENTS!

OCTOBER

3

Fall Festival
Scarecrow Juding

9

Noon Picnic sponsored
by Rolling Thunder

25

Harvest Moon Ball

31

Happy Halloween!

NOVEMBER

11

Veteran's Day Program

13

Annual Pheasant Dinner

26

Happy Thanksgiving!

DECEMBER

7

Pearl Harbor Day

10

ALA State of MN
Gift Give Away

16

Resident Christmas Party

23

Resident and Staff
Christmas Party

25

Merry Christmas!

Traditions.....

For every group, family and community there are certain traditions that we look forward to each year.

As the fall season rolls around, we get excited for the beginning of school, annual harvest and the football season to begin. I feel that continuing tradition is important. I am not sure if it is me getting sentimental about sending my second child (1st girl) to kindergarten this fall or what it is exactly.

In today's world we are so busy with everything changing that it is kind of nice to know there are still a few traditions that we can rely on each year. For me, it's the annual 1st day of pheasant season in South Dakota with my family and friends, watching that first high school football game and cooking that first batch of winter chili. I think growing up as a child, I kind of took the family traditions for granted. Now that I have my own family though, I truly see how important they are. I want my kids to experience the same traditions and as a family start a few new ones for ourselves.

As a Veterans Home, continuing tradition comes easy. We have the privilege of caring for our nation's heroes each and every day. We take great pride in our home and many of the traditions that have been established over time. It could be our Annual Scarecrow Festival, Pheasant Diner, Harvest Moon Ball, Veterans Day Program, Annual Fishing Trip or Cabin Fever Week that you remember most. I also hope it's the *tradition of excellence* around our quality care and services and providing outstanding customer service you remember as well. These traditions are the most important of all. With these traditions comes great responsibility and very high expectations for the future.

I hope everyone has the opportunity to continue your annual traditions again this year. I would also encourage you to pass those traditions on to the next generation as well.

Luke Schryvers, Administrator

From Duane's Desk.....

Volunteer Services Coordinator

I'm not sure how many of you are aware that located in the northwest part of our grounds of MVH-L next to the sidewalk, near the putting green, and surrounding the gazebo lays 115 Veteran/Memorial Bricks honoring our beloved heroes and veteran organizations.

This project began when my predecessor, Gaylord Keck, was serving as the Volunteer Services Coordinator. In fact, Gaylord was one of the first bricks purchased by his friends back on March 14, 2006. Thus, if you do the math, this project is very much alive after 9 years. There is plenty of space along the sidewalk to purchase a Memorial Brick for your loved one who is honorably discharged, currently serving our country, the families thereof, and veteran's service organizations.

The brick is of normal size, therefore, limitations of how much information per line needs to be addressed. The brick allows for a maximum of three lines of information with each line having no more than 11 characters, numbers, dashes, periods, etc.

If you would like more information about this project and the cost, please contact me at 507-283-6237. I will be more than happy to visit with you and help guide you with this.

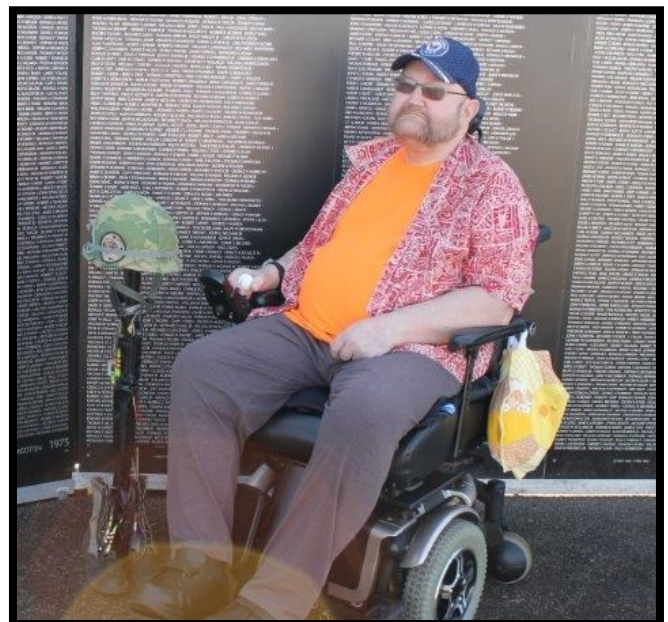


TRICK OR TREAT!

We would appreciate donations of candy to give out on Halloween!
Thank you!



The "Traveling Vietnam Wall" came to Sioux Falls in August





October

4
Jimmie Halstead
8
Roger Jensen
12
Larry Torgerson
20
Julia Johnson
22
Bob Morrison
31
Boyd Landsman

November

12
Bob Weiland
18
Marjorie Berry
26
Bob Miller
28
Rita Lonneman

December

3
Cliff Gilbertson
4
Kelly Olson
11
Harvey Hemme
13
David King
16
John Goslar
22
Bernie Shepherd
26
Bob Anderson
Jack Andreasen
Earl Klitzke
28
Warren Herreid



Thank You!!!
To the American Legion Legacy Riders for their visit!

WELCOME!

NAME	HOMETOWN	SERVICE
Bob Anderson	Luverne	Army/WWII
Gary Brown	Shakopee	Army/Peacetime
Walt Bauman	Jasper	Army/WWII
Bud Frey	Luverne	Army/Korean
Clarence Bauer	Adrian	Navy/Peacetime
Eugene Erlandson	Rushmore	Army/Air Force/WWII
Warren Herreid	Luverne	Army/Air Force WWII & Korean

JOIN US FOR A FESTIVE FALL EVENING AT THE HARVEST MOON BALL!

Sunday, October 25, 2015
Dinner served at 5:30 P.M.

Harvest Moon Ball begins at 7:00 P.M.
Music provided by the Fulda Area Big Band

Cost of tickets is \$8.00

RSVP by Wednesday, October 21
at (507) 283-6200



HOPE NOTES

A DOSE OF HOPE JUST
FOR YOU!



Where's the Hope?

Over the past several months, we at the Minnesota Veterans Home, have needed to work through experiences of grief and sorrow as many of our precious residents have passed away. We know that our sadness is small compared to the loss that family members of these loved ones are feeling.

Chances are that you have had more than a few hopeless moments over the past three months. It's painful when a loved one is hurting and you can't do anything to take away their pain. It's hard on your faith when God doesn't seem to answer your prayers in the way you want Him to. It's tough on your hope when you have to say 'good-bye' for the final time to someone you love. Is there any hope when everything in life seems to be falling apart?

All of us experience losses and you can probably easily identify a time in your life when you felt hopeless. It may be that death, disease, troubled relationships or finances have you backed in a corner and you don't know what to do. You feel despair and an overwhelming sense of hopelessness. Here is a scripture truth that may help.....

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.' (Romans 15:13) First of all, remember who God is...He is a God of Hope, and nothing in your life can change that. Secondly, God knows that we face hopeless situations more often than not, and He is well aware of every feeling of hopelessness that you have right now. Thirdly, at this very moment, in whatever pit of despair you find yourself in, God is waiting to fill you with two things that money can't buy...joy and peace!

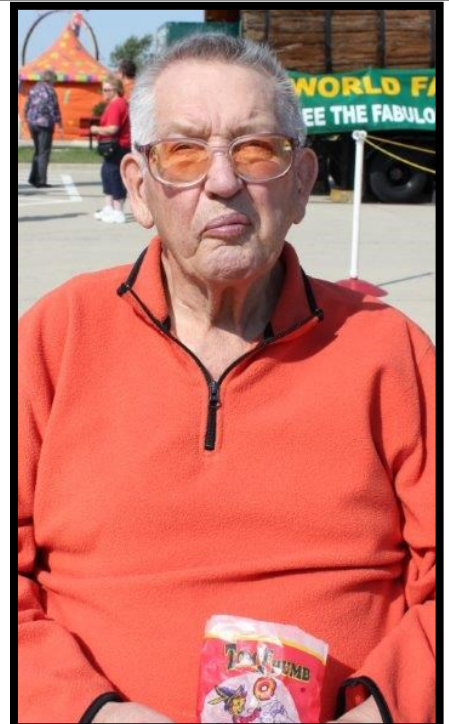
How does God pull this off? By giving us Jesus, the One who understands well every emotion, every fear, every worry and every hopeless thought we have. Jesus lived a perfect life in the midst of a hopeless world and then offered His perfect life in our place on the cross. Three days later, He rose from the grave and made hope a reality to all who will simply place their trust in Him. That's the hope you can count on when your heart is breaking. Jesus is alive and He can pull your heart back together!

So, if your life seems hopeless and you can't see your way out, just remember...God is on your side. Jesus is a prayer away...and you're never without hope. Never.

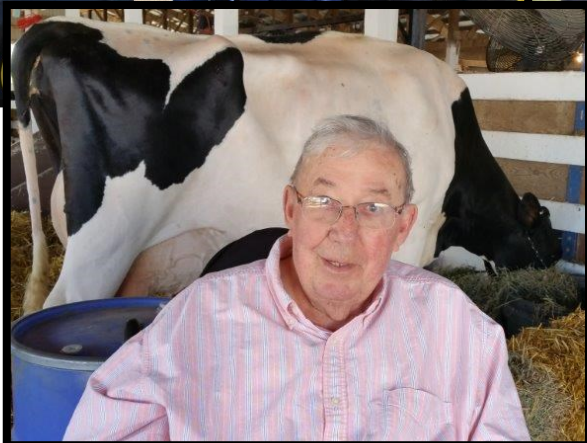
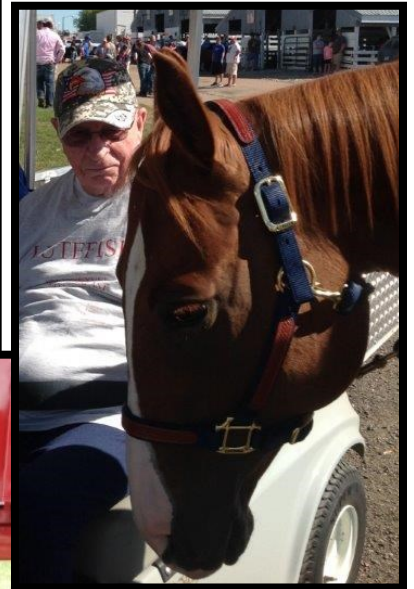
Pastor Tom



Clay County Fair Outing



Annual Car Show & Rock County Fair



RESIDENT OF THE QUARTER

VONNIE METZ



If you are a 'Trivial Pursuit' fan, then you may want to store away the following facts about the year 1926. Calvin Coolidge was President of the United States. A pound of bread cost 9¢, while a half gallon of milk would only

set you back 28¢. Pontiac cars began to be made that year and Route 66 was created which ran from Chicago to Los Angeles. Harry Houdini died at age 52, while 'Winnie the Pooh' was introduced in the UK. However, all of that pales in comparison to the real news in 1926. Lavonne K. Metz was born on August 16 in Adrian, Minnesota, to her parents, Leo and Katherine Wallrich. There's nothing trivial about that!

Vonnie attended and graduated from St. Adrian High School in 1943 and then enrolled in St. Catherine's in St. Paul, MN where she studied business education. After receiving her college degree, Vonnie taught high school business classes in Olivia and Worthington. When you visit with Vonnie these days, it is easy to see the 'teacher' in her. This distinguished lady is filled with kindness and wisdom.

Vonnie's teaching career was interrupted in 1950 when she married her best friend and partner in life, Gilbert Metz. On June 10th of that year, Gilbert and Lavonne exchanged their 'I do's' and have been in love ever since.

Our recreation department is on-line and can help our residents receive & send e-mail.

Our recreation staff checks e-mail daily and will print and deliver messages to residents. They will also assist in sending messages. This is a great way to keep in touch with family & friends!

activity.luverne@state.mn.us

Both Gil and Vonnie reside at the Minnesota Veterans Home where they recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. God has blessed them with 3 children: Gene, Lisa and Allan, along with 8 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Following their marriage, the couple lived and farmed near Lismore, MN. Vonnie also resumed her teaching career during their marriage, taking positions in Adrian & Lismore.

Vonnie has always tended to be creative. Her hobbies over the years have included quilting, sewing and painting. Her faith is important to her as well, leading her involvement with many church activities at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Lismore, where she is a member.

Following their retirement, Gil and Vonnie decided to trade 25 of the harsh Minnesota winters for the sunny climate of Mexico. That isn't surprising at all, considering Bonnie has a knack for business...she knows a good deal when it's available to her. Gil and Vonnie hold many happy memories from those years and it is a joy to hear them share stories of winters long ago.

We at the Veterans Home are blessed to have Vonnie make her home with us. While we can't escape the cold Minnesota winters, we simply rely on Vonnie's beautiful smile and charming spirit which brings a definite warmth to our facility. Some things have changed since 1926, including the price of bread and milk. However, some things haven't changed a bit...Lavonne K. Metz is a priceless treasure!

We love you, Vonnie, and salute you as Resident of the Quarter.



**Mystery Trip to End of the Line Park
in Currie**

HEALTH WHYS.....Chris Myers, RN Education Coordinator

This is the time of year we start hearing and seeing ads for flu vaccine. While getting vaccinated for influenza every year is important, The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that all adults not only get an annual flu vaccine but also a Td vaccine every 10

years to protect against tetanus; Tdap vaccine once instead of Td to protect against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough) and some other vaccines based on factors such as age, lifestyle, job, chronic health conditions, travel and vaccines you had in your past.



Saluting Zachary Becker, great, great nephew of our resident, Lee Oertli.

Thank you for serving our country.

The additional vaccines may include those that protect against shingles, pneumonia, meningitis, hepatitis A & B, chicken pox, measles, mumps and the rubella and human papillomavirus which can cause certain cancers.

Staying health is a priority for all. Vaccination is a single thing you can do to prevent diseases that could result not only in serious health problems but missed work, medical bills and not being able to care for your family. Adults with chronic health conditions are more likely to develop complications from certain vaccine-preventable diseases including long-term illness, hospitalization and even death.

Your healthcare professional can advise you on which vaccines you need and why. After getting your vaccine, talk to your friends and loved ones about getting protected too.



TAPS

We extend our deepest sympathy to the loved ones of our residents who recently passed away. We are grateful for the time they spent with us.

Irwin Berg
Jerry Taylor
Bud Bjerrum
Ralph Lais
Rolland Christians
Joe Wolf
Leo Baumgard
Roger Wedeking



Husking corn

"Why I Appreciate America's Veterans"

Submitted by Volunteer, Louis Laackmann
and written by his nephew's grandson, Eddie Duin

I am a 12 year old boy and I admire all our veterans. They are "our hero's." That saying is on my great grandpa's headstone. He fought in World War II as a Paratrooper.

They have risked their lives for ours and that is a true hero. Veterans should be highly respected by all people because if it was not for them we would not have the freedom we have.

My grandpa's and great grandfathers were in the military services. I love hearing and seeing pictures from them. Sometimes my Grandpa Ron doesn't like to talk much about it and I respect him because I can't even imagine what he has seen or done for us all. He gave me his Army uniform and I love to wear it for airsoft. I was also given some Vietnam money that he brought back when he was in the Vietnam War. My grandpa is MY HERO!!! My grandpa was put in the Vet's hospital. When we went to visit him they had so many cool things to look at. When you sit back and watch all the men and women enter the hospital — some missing arms, legs and in wheelchairs, it makes me stop and pray for each one of them and thank them.

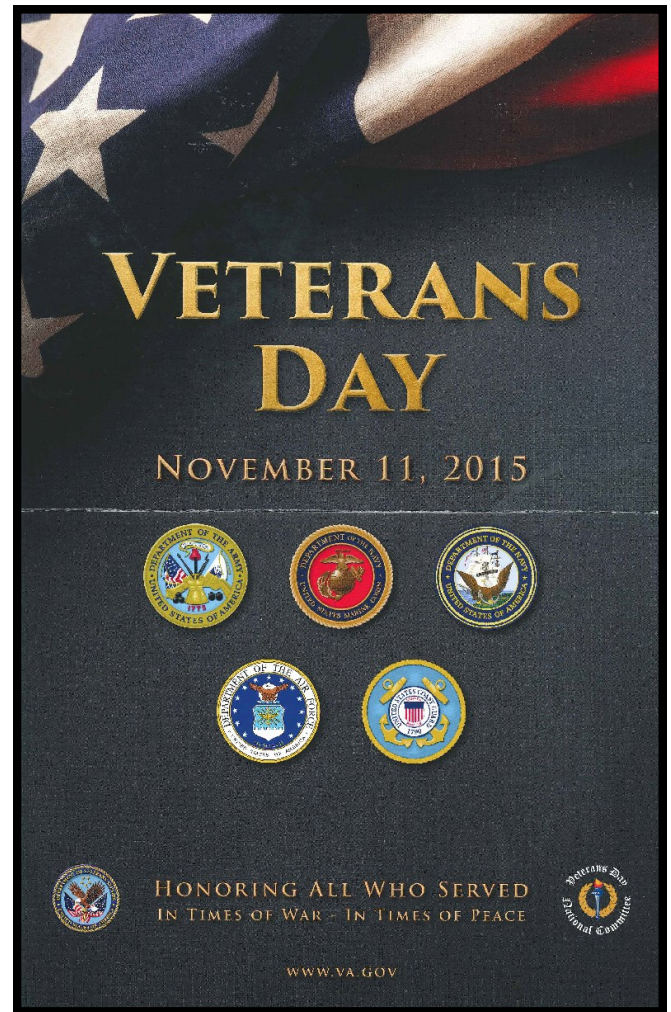
The Vet's hospital has a cool logo that reads "The price of freedom can be seen here". Boy, isn't that the truth!!

As a young boy, I know it feels good at night to go to sleep knowing we have thousands of men and women protecting us and fighting for our freedom so I can live a normal life.

I attend a public school and everyday at our lunch I pray "Thank you God for our troops who lost their lives for mine and others. Also please be with family members who have people gone fighting for us and for those who have never been found." I can't imagine what they go through every day.

This past summer the mini Veterans wall came to our town. It was amazing to see all those names even though I didn't know any of them. It made me sad yet proud to be an American where at least I know I'm Free!!

To Grandpa Ron
I love you!
From Eddie Duin



*Please join us on
Wednesday, November 11, 2015
at 2:30 P.M. for our
Veterans Day Program
when we will honor
those men and women who
have worn the uniform of our country.*

Please join us in saying thank you!

MEAL PRICE INCREASE

Effective October 1, 2015 meal prices will increase.

Regular meals will be \$6.00 each.
Special Occasion meals will be \$8.00 each.

We will continue to honor all previously sold tickets.

Annual Fun Day - Sponsored by 2nd District AL/ALA

On behalf of our residents and staff, we would like to say "THANK YOU" to the entire 2nd District AL/ALA for sponsoring the American Legion Fun Day on Wednesday, September 9.



Minnesota Veterans Home—Luverne
1300 N. Kniss, P. O. Box 539
Luverne, MN 56156

(507) 283-6200



HOLIDAY ROOM RESERVATIONS & MEALS

We welcome you to eat with your loved one, especially during the holidays! Reservations for Thanksgiving Day need to be made by Friday, November 13 and for Christmas Eve supper and Christmas Day dinner by Friday, December 11. **GROUPS OF 8 OR MORE** are asked to cater in their own food.

The cost of a holiday meal ticket is \$8.00.

Due to limited space for family gatherings during the holidays, rooms can be reserved from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Rooms that can be reserved include the Red Wing Lounge, Room 113 and the downstairs meeting room. Reservations can be made through the administration office or you can call (507) 283-6200 during office hours (7:30 – 4:00).

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the residents & staff from MVH-L!

Please join us for a fun-filled day of Christmas decorating on Tuesday, December 1 from 10-2.

Lunch will be provided!

Contact the recreation department if you can help.

